

Coon Rapids Residential Backyard Chickens

Chickens Permitted

Not more than four (4) chicken hens are allowed. No roosters or other fowl or birds are allowed.

Application and Staff Review

- a) All chicken operations must be registered by the property owner with the City prior to placement and obtain the required permit. The City Council will establish a fee for the one-time registration and annual renewal process and fees.
OR
- b) Permit issued in conformance with the provisions of this code. Once issued, the permit shall not require renewal, but is subject to revocation for violation of its terms, and is subject to revocation should a future City Council repeal all or a portion of this section of the City Code to limit chicken raising in the City.
 - Standards for the detail of the sketch shall be as from time to time directed by the City Staff. The City Administrator shall delegate staff responsibility to review applications and issue the permit.
 - So long as the structure comprising the coop is less than 60 square feet or less at the foundation level, no building permit shall be required, and the structure shall not be considered an "accessory building".
- c) Registration process consists of a site and building plan with location and specifics of coop, pen or run, and coop setbacks.

Site Specifications

- a) Coop (and covered run) is limited to not more than sixty (60) square feet.
- b) Coop requirements are as follows:
 - The architectural style, color and facing material shall be compatible with the principal structure on site
 - All building material must be durable
 - All city building, electrical, property maintenance and zoning requirements must be followed
 - Coop shall be fully enclosed to prevent any escape by the chickens or entrance by migratory birds
- c) Shelters or coops and run shall be in the rear yard only and located at least ten (10) feet from side or rear lot lines.
- d) Shelters or coops and run shall be at least thirty (30) feet from an adjacent home (living space) and shall be located at least fifty feet from any well.
- e) All runs must be fenced unless the entire rear yard is fenced. Chickens are not allowed to run free at any time.

- f) Chicken may not be kept indoors and in garages. Coops must be maintained in a way to house chickens year round.
- g) Structure must be removed and site restored if keeping of chickens is discontinued for more than twelve (12) months.

Maintenance of Chickens and Site Conditions

- a) Food material must be stored outside in closed, metal container to avoid pests.
- b) Food shall not be allowed to accumulate around feeders, lots, run or coops and must be removed to avoid rodent and vermin.
- c) Manure may not be accumulated on the property. All waste must be properly disposed of or composted.
- d) All coops and run areas must be kept clean, sanitary and in good repair. Flies, rodents and noxious odors shall be controlled at all times.
- e) Slaughtering and processing of the chickens must be done off-site. No cockfighting is allowed.
- f) The applicant shall care for the welfare of the chickens on a daily basis, and shall not violate any code, rule or regulation of any governmental entity relating to the raising of animals.
- g) Injury or annoyance to others. No fowl or poultry may be kept or raised in a manner as to cause injury or annoyance to persons or other animals on other property in the vicinity by reason of noise, odor, or filth.
- h) Impounding fowl or poultry. Any fowl or poultry at large in violation of this section may be impounded by the City, and after being impounded for five (5) business days or more without being reclaimed by the owner, may be humanly euthanized or sold. A person reclaiming any impounded fowl or poultry shall pay the cost of impounding and keeping the same.

Additional Conditions

- a) If eggs are harvested, they may be used only for the personal consumption of the occupants of the dwelling sharing the lot, and may not be sold or given to others.
- b) In case of rental properties, the property owners must sign off on application. If the home is within a managed community and has a home ownership association, the association management must also sign off on the placement of the chickens. Note: Many neighborhood associations may prohibit the keeping of chickens or have more stringent standards.
- c) In the event of a pandemic or health outbreak involving chickens the City will provide licensed premise information to the Board of Animal Health.
- d) The applicant shall allow unlimited access to the City's agents and/or Board of Animal Health, without notice, for the purpose of conducting periodic testing or sampling necessary to evaluate the threat of communicable diseases associated with the presence of the chickens and to ensure all requirements are being met.
- e) Failure to comply with these standards will result in need for removal of birds and structure.
- f) These rules apply to backyard chickens only, do not apply to veterinarians, licensed pet shops or licensed kennels.

The City shall provide educational materials and resources to all residents interested in raising chickens to help ensure they understand the responsibilities associated with properly raising chickens. See the information created by the City of Crystal. We would like to have something similar to this.